## (March 13, 1995) Shotcrete Application

A clean, dry supply of compressed air sufficient for maintaining adequate nozzle velocity for all parts for the work and for simultaneous operation of a blow pipe for cleaning away rebound shall be maintained at all times. Thickness, method of support, air pressure, and rate of placement of shotcrete shall be controlled to prevent sagging or sloughing of freshly-applied shotcrete.

The shotcrete shall be applied from the lower part of the area upwards. Surfaces to be shot shall be damp, but free of standing water.

The nozzles shall be held at an angle approximately perpendicular to the working face and at a distance that will keep rebound at a minimum and compaction will be maximized. Shotcrete shall emerge from the nozzle in a steady uninterrupted flow. If, for any reason, the flow becomes intermittent, the nozzle shall be diverted from the work until a steady flow resumes.

Surface defects shall be repaired as soon as possible after initial placement of the shotcrete. All shotcrete which lacks uniformity; which exhibits segregation, honeycombing, or lamination; or which contains any dry patches, slugs, voids, or sand pockets, shall be removed and replaced with fresh shotcrete by the Contractor, to the satisfaction of the Engineer at no cost to the Contracting Agency.

Construction joints in the shotcrete shall be uniformly tapered over a minimum distance of twice the thickness of the shotcrete layer. The surface of the joints shall be cleaned and thoroughly wetted before adjacent shotcreting is performed. Shotcrete shall be placed in a manner which provides a finish with uniform texture and color across the construction joint.

The shotcrete shall be cured by applying a clear curing compound in accordance with Section 9-23.2. The curing compound shall be applied immediately after final gunning. The air in contact with shotcrete surfaces shall be maintained at temperatures above 40 F for a minimum of 7 days. Curing compounds shall not be used on any surfaces against which additional shotcrete or other cementitious finishing materials are to be bonded unless positive measures such as sandblasting, are taken to completely remove the curing compounds prior to the application of such additional materials.

If field inspection or testing, by the Engineer, indicates that any shotcrete produced, fails to meet the requirements, the Contractor shall immediately modify procedures, equipment, or system, as necessary, and as approved by the Engineer to produce specification material. All substandard shotcrete already placed shall be repaired by the Contractor, to the satisfaction of the Engineer, at no cost to the Contracting Agency. Such repairs may include removal and replacement of all affected materials.